

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 1997
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS: Chairman Ron Moore, David Couch, Jim Nelson, Doyle Friskney, David Ballard, Wayne Bates, Galen Kiser, Bob Ball, Capt. Richard Yetter and Mark Board (for Steve Dooley).

GUESTS: Dave King, Jim Osting, Bill Stewart, Doug Dowdy, Mike Clark, Nofflet Williams, Karl Rothrock, L.D. Montgomery, Charles Robb, Charlene Davis, Ken Hagan, Mike Dyre, Bob Calkins, Mike Dunn, Mike Hayden, Michael Polly and Rick Stephens.

STAFF: Doug Robinson and Jessamine Saufley.

Chairman Ron Moore called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m., EST in the Board room at the Department for Libraries and Archives. Chairman Moore thanked State Librarian Jim Nelson for hosting the meeting. Chairman Moore called for approval of the February 21, 1997 minutes. The minutes were amended to reflect an additional attendee and then approved. Chairman Moore asked for any changes or additions to the meeting agenda. Chairman Moore called for committee updates:

Bob Ball reporting on behalf of Kentucky Educational Television (KET) informed the Council that installation of a unified system between satellites was completed on March 20 and includes the states of Georgia, Louisiana and Kentucky and is seamless in receiving various states. Channel 68 has a new transmitter and the new antenna should be installed this fall. Five state universities are participating in the NTIA grant. Currently the grant filing process is complete and is being reviewed by the FCC. The five universities will have digital uplinks with the KET satellite. Bob added that design for the satellite uplink at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset is almost complete and will be ready for bid.

Chairman Moore asked David Ballard to report on the status of the 800 MHz Committee. Dave stated that he, Steve Dooley and Secretary John McCarty of the Finance and Administration Cabinet had recently met with the Capitol Planning Advisory Board to update the new Board members and explain that the need for 800 MHz still exists. David stressed the urgency to move forward with the 800 MHz project. Dave explained that the original project was not funded, not deemed appropriate of EMPOWER Kentucky funding and thus terminated. Doug added that strong legislative sponsorship for this project exists.

Dave added that Secretary McCarty has asked the Department of Telecommunications under Dave's direction to develop a business plan in support of 800 MHz. Currently Dave and his staff are identifying all the stake holders, querying other states to see how to implement and fund the 800 MHz project. Dave has obtained the approval from Secretary McCarty to contract with a consultant to explore all options.

Chairman Moore asked about the replacement of equipment for the Kentucky State Police (KSP) and the Department of Emergency Services (DES). It was reported that some of the parts are no longer available and a solution needs to be determined to bridge the gap. DES is submitting an application to replace equipment. After much discussion concerning the 800 MHz, Chairman Moore asked Dave Ballard what was needed from the CAC. Dave stated much of the information he needs at this point should be obtained from the state agencies but he encouraged CAC members to participate in the Wireless Committee. Dave also stressed the need for many partners such as Kentucky League of Cities and the Kentucky Association of Counties.

Next Dave Ballard updated committee members in regard to the KY Information Highway and the bid for ATM. Dave stated that it would be beneficial to get an item included in the special session to amend the Kentucky Information Highway (KIH) bid to include non public schools and non private health care providers. This would require a change in the current statutes. Dave said others areas of discussion are video scheduling, including switching in contract, pricing charges T1 and relay, bandwidth and ATM pricing. Dave highlighted the recent marketing activities of the KIH and announced the upcoming second annual Southern and Eastern Kentucky Telecommunications and Technology Summit to be held on March 27 at the Center for Rural Development in Somerset. Dave showed the members a sample of the KIH telephone calling card.

Mike Clark reported on the recent activities of Kentucky TeleLinking Network (KTLN). Mike said the scheduling committee sub committee is in the process of redefining a policy paper dealing with the scheduling process and equity. The ninety day extension on the Star School's Grant ends March 31. Meetings have begun for the next round of grant awards of two million over five years. This funding will be allocated for cost of repairing equipment, redesign and V-Tel certification.

Chairman Moore summarized by stating that the current vendors will provide pricing and he has had a couple of meetings with hardware vendors addressing bandwidth. Chairman Moore is waiting for a price and questions whether there will be a need to rebid ATM if the pricing is not affordable from the current vendor. The Commonwealth of Kentucky would have to show cause to use another vendor. Chairman Moore added that universal pricing needs to be evaluated in areas such as Frankfort, Louisville and Lexington especially in the arena of supercomputing.

Chairman Moore asked Jim Nelson to provide a legislative update. Jim discussed rates and the impact of the Telecommunications 1996 Act. Jim reported that a hearing was held on March 12 and the Federal Communications Commission will issue a reaction in May. Dave Couch added that he did not realize how advanced Kentucky is in this area. Wayne Bates discussed state level rates. Jim also added that Darrell Owens of NACO from Louisville has recently been appointed to serve on the national committee.

Chairman Nelson asked Doug to provide an EMPOWER Kentucky update. Doug reported that six major tasks were approved concerning technology and that the organizational model has been delayed. Doug added that the IT team, under the direction of Alan Hartwig, consultant from Deloitte and Touche, is drafting a statewide strategic directions document, which will assist

agencies in the development of their 1998-2000 Information Resources Plan (IRP). A draft interim document is available for review and the final document will be completed by June 30.

Chairman Moore suggested that vendors partner with others applying for funding in the KIRM Research and Development grants for 1997. Chairman Moore shared ideas from a recently formed Louisville Internet Partnership between the Louisville Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership. Chairman Moore reported on the concept and potential outcomes for the future impacting the Commonwealth and Louisville. Chairman Moore asked for questions or ideas from the members.

Chairman Moore stated the next Communications Advisory Council Meeting will be held Friday, April 18, 1997 with ATM and Wireless Work Groups meeting prior to and after the CAC.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.